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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Dayton, Ohio

Docket No. 7204.00

Application of

DEC 14 2004

**Robin J. Slater et al.**

Serial No. 09/020,699

Group Art Unit: 2187

Filed: February 9, 1998

Examiner: Reba I. Elmore

For: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DETERMINING THE  
VALIDITY OF A DATA PROCESSING TRANSACTION**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated **October 4, 2004**, please amend the above-named application as follows: